



**RROMAC MEETING MINUTES**  
**September 19, 2013**

**The purpose of RROMAC is to study rural road operations and maintenance concerns in Washington County, work with County staff to develop program and funding alternatives and make recommendations to the Board of Commissioners.**

Members: Bill Ewers  
Denny Hruby  
Eldon Jossi  
John Malnerich  
Jim McCulloch  
Jake Miller  
Doug Riedweg  
Dave Sweeney  
Gary Virgin  
Lars Wahlstrom

Staff: Steve Franks  
Keith Lewis  
Victoria Saager  
Dave Schamp  
Janelle Lockbeam  
Stephen Roberts  
Gary Stockhoff  
Todd Watkins  
Shelley Oylear  
Jed Corley

Absent Mike Chombeau  
Matt Pihl

Guests Tom Woodward, ODOT  
Ken Clausen  
David Kim, ODOT

**Welcome**

Lars Wahlstrom called the meeting to order and moved to approve the August minutes and the motion was seconded by Gary Virgin. Minutes were approved unanimously. Introductions were made.

**Guest Comments**

Ken Clausen from Old Pumpkin Ridge Road asked for an update of when his road may be upgraded. Staff responded that it is currently first on the [Gravel Road Upgrade](#) list but there is still no funding. The amount of dust abatement application will be similar to this past year; a small amount for safety only.

**Oregon Department of Transportation Update**

David Kim introduced Tom Woodward. Tom is a maintenance supervisor of day-to-day operations in the western Washington County service area.

The maintenance outsourcing contract required by the 2009 Jobs and Transportation Act has been terminated. The contract cost more than doing the work themselves. [See [Letter to Senate Committee on Business and Transportation](#)]

Project updates: \$66 million is available in the [Statewide Transportation Improvement Program](#) (STIP) for Region 1 to help with programs such as freight, bike/pedestrian, etc.

Projects include:

- Widening of Hwy 26, Cornelius Pass – 185<sup>th</sup>
- Right turn lanes at Hwy 47 and 8 intersection
- King City sidewalk
- Auxiliary lanes on I5
- Safety corridor on Tualatin Valley Highway
- South bound interchange on Hwy 217 at Allen and Denney Roads
- Paving Hwy 26 between Glencoe and Mountaindale Roads

The [Recommended 100% List](#) was distributed.

City of Hillsboro is starting design work for an interim fix at the intersection of Tualatin Valley Highway and SW 209th Avenue. It will include protected turns. Construction is scheduled to begin next summer. Don Odermott is the contact at the City of Hillsboro.

Paving season is winding down September 30. Some paving remains on Glencoe Road, Hwy 217 and Brookwood Parkway. The Helvetia Road culvert project was accelerated for the fish window. If weather allows, they can extend the date.

Stephen Roberts heard concerns at a CPO meeting last night regarding pavement patching on Hwy 219 done by Region 2 with the 48” zipper. Closer to Hillsboro is okay but there is concern for motorcycle traffic farther out.

ODOT noted that no improvements are scheduled through 2018 on Highway 219.

Variable message signs will be updated this fall. Travel times will be posted in October or November. Also, a few locations will receive speed advisory signs to warn drivers to slow down because of slow traffic ahead in high crash corridors. A sign to be installed on Mount Hood in two to three years will display weather conditions.

Lars said that he thought the paving work on I-84 was very well done and was well coordinated with the City of Portland. Eldon commented he does not feel that the Hwy 6 rumble strips were placed properly. He said that it is okay in the middle but not in the track of trucks and farm equipment.

Doug Riedweg questioned where ODOT stands with roadside memorials. David said that they are difficult to deal with. Sometimes family contact is made to encourage placement away from the right-of-way and try to minimize what is placed.

ODOT is looking at orphan highways; Farmington Road is on that list. ODOT would give funding to bring it up to standard and transfer jurisdiction.

### **Engineering and Construction Services Update**

Gary Stockhoff provided updates on Engineering and Construction Services projects:

- Boones Ferry is underway.
- Scholls Ferry is just starting; 80-90% plans for signals on Roy Rogers.
- The traffic signal on Scholls Ferry at Tile Flat requires land use action, as does the turn lane on River Road at Rosedale.
- A storm water audit by DEQ and EPA will be performed soon. Working with Clean Water Services to do what we can. Washington County is the last group in the area to go through it. No one has gotten through unscathed.
- Proposed work on Cornelius Pass and Brookwood Parkway estimated for 2015.

### **Operations and Maintenance Budget and Update**

Dave Schamp introduced the 2013 Top Gun of the 20th Statewide Annual Safety Equipment ROADEO, Jed Corley. The event was hosted by Washington County this year for the first time. Next year the ROADEO will return to Deschutes County. Six events are held; pre-trip inspection, truck plow obstacle course, loader competition, chains on/chains off, grader course, and backhoe bowling. Jed finished third in the loader, second in the chains on/chains off and backhoe. Tim Hancock, also representing Washington County, came in third overall. Albie Vanderzanden was the Top Gun in 2008 and went on to compete in the national competition that year. Gary Virgin moved to send a letter of appreciation to Jed for his achievement and the motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Shoulder maintenance continues on Glencoe Road. Baker Rock will overlay Glencoe Road next spring. Two major projects are upcoming: repair of two slides at Hagg Lake and extensive machine patching on Gales Creek Road, weather permitting.

Keith Lewis gave an update on the maintenance work. Chip and fog seals and machine patch on Timber Road are finished. Worked with ODOT on Fern Hill at the Hwy 47 rail road crossing. Striping program is at 70% and Vegetation is at 20% on current fiscal year road maintenance work program.

John Malnerich commented that when buses stop at the tracks it causes a backup of cars into the travel lane of Hwy 47 and suggested the rail road traffic stop instead.

Todd Watkins is working through transitions within the Inspection staff; two inspectors transferred to Engineering and Construction Services and some other inspectors have been assigned to special projects. The paving contract has been extended through the fiscal year and will finish next spring. Micro-surfacing was done in the urban area for the first time and it needs striping. Micro-surfacing is more cost-effective than overlay. It looks more like slurry seal but thicker, more durable and can be used on collectors and sets up in a short amount of time.

### **Scenic Bikeway and Rural Road Safety**

Shelley Oylear shared information about the Tualatin Valley Scenic Bikeway and Rural Road Safety Program (see [attached handout](#)). The [Oregon Parks and Recreation Department](#) approved two scenic bikeways in this year, making a total of 11 in Oregon.

[Washington County Visitors Association](#) organized and paid for signs and installation of way finding signs along the route. A sign unveiling and inaugural ride was held last Monday. Printed and web materials urge that the route is for experienced riders. A study earlier this year showed one million dollars per day is brought into Oregon through tourism. Travel Oregon will put on workshops for property owners along the route to address concerns such as bicyclists using farms as toilets.

Shelley explained the Rural Road Safety action plan. A resident from Portland State University will help with inventory, evaluation, and identification of existing conditions for eight months. Once inventory and data are collected the next step is to engage the community; getting feedback as well as public education. Let Shelley know if other groups should be in the discussion and how to best engage rural users and the rural community. Jim McCulloch suggested using school activity time such as PTA meetings. Dave Sweeney suggested the Farm Bureau.

Brought up were ideas such as designating some roads as safer, evaluate east/west routes for sun glare issues and use of flashers on bikes even in daytime.

Denny Hruby asked where the training and licensing of bicycles stand. Shelley said that this comes up every year but doesn't go anywhere. Some adult classes by bicycle clubs and schools have more outreach.

### **Miscellaneous**

Letter for the RROMAC endorsement of Vehicle Registration Fee was distributed for review. Two decisions need to be made: the fee amount and should it be put before the public for vote. John Malnerich suggests endorsing the maximum amount rather than having to come back later and ask for more.

Stephen Roberts said that WCCC is in favor of the full amount 11-2; they are 7-6 for requiring a vote. He explained what the different amounts would do for service levels.

- At \$22 will keep services at current level.
- At \$30 services at current level plus some deferred maintenance or other assets and some ITS.
- At \$43 high level of maintenance, gravel road upgrades, ITS and deficient bridges.

Discussion regarding URMD and Gain Share for schools; they are from a different fund source. Revenue from local Vehicle Registration fees stays in the county in which it has been collected, it is locally controlled and may be an interim solution until bigger funding issues are solved.

Stephen distributed [Frequently Asked Questions](#) regarding the Potential Countywide Vehicle Registration Fee for Road Maintenance.

Lars motioned for RROMAC to support the full \$43 Vehicle Registration Fee; six in favor, one not but would be in favor of \$23 to maximum amount. Motion carried (See [attached letter to Board](#)).

Review of a letter to the City of Hillsboro and ODOT Rail regarding RROMAC's support for TV Highway/209th Avenue safety improvements drafted by Jim McCulloch was reviewed. Jim moved and John second the motion; seven in favor. Motion carried. Gary will prepare the letter.

Jim complimented Stephen Roberts on the [Updates newsletter](#).

Dave Schamp shared that the Rock Creek Road neighborhood has raised funds to repair potholes. They will do the work this Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Lars adjourned the meeting.

### **October Agenda**

- Vehicle Registration Funding update
- Intel Construction Manager Update
- Minor Betterment update from RROMAC members
- Intel Construction Manager update
- West Union bike facility study update
- Invite Commissioner Schouten or Rogers

**November Agenda** – City of Hillsboro Planning update